

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Data Papers, Inc.

IMC-PA

Expansion of IT Infrastructure

Client Profile:

Data Papers, Inc. manufactures custom printed products, business forms, jumbo rolls, laser cut sheets, variable data imaging, labels & label-form combinations, mailers, unit sets, laser checks, multi-color printing, bindery and finishing services. The company employs 109 people at its facility in Muncy, Pennsylvania.

Situation:

Data Papers, Inc. wanted to design and implement an updated, networking infrastructure that would reduce administrative costs while increasing functionality. The company contacted the Industrial Manufacturing Center (IMC), a NIST MEP network affiliate and division of the Mid-Pennsylvania Manufacturing Extension Partnership, for help.

Solution:

IMC met with Data Papers to define the best solution to meet the company's communication and data needs and then translate the plan into a list of hardware and software options to meet the company's objectives. Data Papers also needed to extend their newly implemented Small Business Server to incorporate their satellite Williamsport sales office. The sales office was currently running two application servers that were difficult to maintain and administer. The desire was to simplify network communications while ensuring adequate availability and backup of user data. Optimal system implementation for the satellite office required the installation of a virtual private network, upgrade of systems and data migration. The environment at the satellite location needed to be simplified to permit the linking of the personal computers and network printers to the main office. This was achieved through a network-based virtual private network tunnel. The satellite office's data was to reside on the main network where it would be secured and backed up nightly. Additionally, their email was to be hosted on the main Exchange server utilizing a separate identity. This configuration would allow the satellite users access to groupware solutions such as public folders and shared calendars, while allowing for after-hours Internet based access. Also, this project opened the door to implementing mobile technologies for use by their sales force. By being hosted on the main server, the satellite users would then enjoy the benefits of being covered by IMC's SpamCare coverage to control spam and protect their data with additional anti-virus protection from the main system.

IMC's pre-migration activities included: 1) preparing the new replacement PCs to include formatting and loading all required software and configuring to interface with host domain using the Microsoft SBS methodology; 2) creating satellite users on the network(s) and creating appropriate domains; 3) creating and publishing the website on the main web server; 4) moving the Xebra database to a hosted solution and configuring the current user's software for the remote database; and 5) pre-configuring the virtual private network connection. IMC then installed the router and established the virtual private network tunnel, set the appropriate IP addresses for network printers, modified DNS records on communications servers for e-mail and web, disconnected previous applications, and reconfigured

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existing computers. As a result of this project with IMC, Data Papers achieved an updated, easily managed networking system that reduced administrative costs and complexity while increasing functionality and remote communication.

Results:

* Realized over \$234,000 in cost savings.

Testimonial:

"Due to IMC's expertise, I knew I was getting the 'right' solution and was assured that they would provide us with the latest technology, bringing together the tools and systems to meet our needs at every step of the project."

Keith Bennett, IT Manager